

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: Rhonda O'Dell  
Approved by: Carter Gray

RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE AGRICENTER INTERNATIONAL AND  
SHELBY COUNTY SCHOOLS TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF  
CONVERTING BOLTON HIGH SCHOOL TO A REGIONAL AGRICULTURE  
CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION SCHOOL WITH AN EMPHASIS IN  
RURAL AND URBAN FARMING AND FOOD DELIVERY. SPONSORED BY  
COMMISSIONER DAVID REAVES.

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WHEREAS, Bolton High School is a true gem in Shelby County and has a long and storied history rooted in agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Bolton High School continues to see its school enrollment decrease due to the formation of municipal districts and its remote location; and

WHEREAS, The cost to continue to run Bolton High School based upon its current model is high due to the need for large expenditures on bus transportation; and

WHEREAS, The future of Bolton High School is uncertain and the people of North Shelby County need a good long term option for a high school in their area; and

WHEREAS, The Bolton High School Campus sits on a significant amount of acreage and farm land owned by the Bolton Board of Trust; and

WHEREAS, Agricenter International is in the business of both rural and urban farming and food delivery; and

WHEREAS, There are no regional agriculture Career Technical Educational (CTE) schools that allow for children in West Tennessee to choose a life of rural or urban farming; and

WHEREAS, Rural and urban farming face significant future challenges in our region and need a regional Center of Excellence to focus on solutions for food growth and delivery in West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, The State of Tennessee and the Commissioner of Agriculture are taking great interest in and providing potential funding sources for such endeavors; and

WHEREAS, The Shelby County Board of Commissioners continues to look at the future challenges of urban poverty, food deserts, and food delivery logistics issues; and

WHEREAS, The Shelby County Board of Commissioners continues to look at industrial, commercial, and residential blight and logical potential land reclamation strategies including farming; and

WHEREAS, The Shelby County Board of Education and Shelby County Board of Commissioners are looking for innovative and useful ways to repurpose old school buildings and vacant property; and

WHEREAS, The Shelby County Board of Commissioner are passionate about ending hunger in our starving communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE, That the Shelby County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that the Shelby County Board of Education and the Agricenter study the feasibility of converting Bolton High School to a West Tennessee Regional CTE High School specializing in rural and urban agriculture and work with the Bolton Board of Trust in this effort.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Shelby County Board of Commissioners shall pledge its full support and resources in the event such assistance is needed to study the feasibility of such a conversion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall take effect upon its passage when signed by the Mayor and in accordance with the Shelby County Charter,

Article II, Section 2.06(B) and shall remain in effect until repealed, amended, or modified by the County Commission.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.  
Shelby County Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of County Commission

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_